



Eastern CT Veterans Community Center Has New Location!

Visit us at 1010 Main Street, Willimantic

NEWS AND UPDATES



Effective Immediately: Eastern CT Veterans Community Center Has New Location

The Eastern CT Veterans Community Center located at Tyler Square in Willimantic, moved its operations to the Chamber's building at 1010 Main Street, Willimantic. All services currently being provided to veterans and their families will continue to be provided from the new location. The Veterans Coffee House, which brings together between 40-75 veterans, will meet every Wednesday from 9:00-11:00 AM at Hops 44, 625 Middle Turnpike, Storrs.

A screenshot of the ID.me website. The header includes links for "Products", "Solutions", "Industries", "Individuals", and "Company". Below the header, there is a section titled "ID.me simplifies how individuals securely prove and share their identity online." To the right of this text is a video thumbnail showing a man looking at a smartphone. At the bottom of the page, there is a green button labeled "For Business & Government".

ID.me using VA.gov

Create an [ID.me Account Using VA.gov](#). We highly encourage all Veterans to enroll in this program. If you have difficulty we can help you get online and enrolled. Call or text the Veterans Community Center at 860-423-6389.

Whether you're currently receiving GI Bill benefits or plan to in the future, you can create a VA.gov account using ID.me to better manage your benefits and access all VA resources.



Business Plan Basics for Veterans

An online workshop
Monday, February 21

We will discuss how to build a strong business plan and discuss market research, how to market your business, financials, and more. If you are an aspiring entrepreneur with a specific business idea, or if you have been operating your business for a few years but have not yet written a business plan, this workshop is for you!

[Registration and more information here](#)

Iwo Jima Flag-Raising 77th Anniversary

February 23, 2022



Source: file photo, U.S. Marines, 5th Division, 28th Regiment

The Iwo Jima Memorial Historical Foundation, Inc.

Remembrance Ceremony

Wednesday February 23, 2022 at 10:30am

(Rain/Snow Reschedule Date is Sat. Feb 26th)

at

National Iwo Jima Memorial

1 Iwo Jima Way

(Ella Grasso Blvd & Barbour Rd)

New Britain, CT

[Arrive Early to Find Parking](#)

Contact Elaine Schieffer at 203-859-4578 for more information

Iwo Jima Memorial - Flag Raising Anniversary

The 77th Anniversary Ceremony of the Iwo Jima Flag-Raising will be:

Date: Wed. Feb 23, 2022 (Rain/Snow Date is Sat. Feb. 26th)

Time: 10:30am – please arrive early, as parking is limited

Place: National Iwo Jima Memorial, 1 Iwo Jima Way, New Britain, CT

RSVP: To Elaine Schieffer, Event Coordinator

elaineschieffer@sbcglobal.net
203-859-4578



PDBR REVIEW

The Physical Disability Board of Review, or PDBR was created by a provision in the FY2008 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) to reassess the accuracy and fairness of combined disability ratings of 20% or less for service members who were separated from service, rather than medically retired, because of medical conditions.

To be eligible for a PDBR review, you must have been medically separated between September 11, 2001, and December 31, 2009, with a combined disability rating of 20% or less and found ineligible for retirement.

More than 71,000 service members are eligible for review, many have not yet requested a review of their claim. The PDBR reports that more than half of the reviewed claims have been upgraded to a disability rating of 30% or more.

Eligible veterans can request a board review by submitting a DOD form 294, which is found at www.esd.whs.mil/Portals/54/documents/DD/forms/dd/dd0294.pdf. You can learn more at www.health.mil.

[DOD form 294](#)

[Click here for more information](#)



Legal representation for those facing eviction

Willimantic is now among cities with the highest number of evictions in the state.

You can find a feature on NPR by clicking [here](#) to listen to a report highlighting the need for tenants to have representation when facing eviction in housing court.

Last summer, Gov. Ned Lamont signed into law a new statewide program that will give low-income tenants facing eviction access to a lawyer. Connecticut became the third state in the country to endorse a right to counsel program and the second to fund it after Washington. The first phase is set to roll out Jan. 31 for select income-eligible residents in 14 neighborhoods.

Lawyers for the program say it aims to address an uneven playing field. In Connecticut, 80% of landlords have legal representation in eviction cases, while only 7% of tenants have the same benefit. And without representation, many tenants are unaware of their rights.

Eligible tenants are those who make 80% or less than the area median income and live in certain ZIP codes in Hartford, Danielson, Willimantic, Putnam, New Haven, West Haven, Bridgeport or Waterbury.

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BUY A BRICK  **TO PROMOTE YOUR BUSINESS**

and support the Veterans Monument Park!

*Your business can be featured at the
NEW Veterans Memory Walkway...*



Bricks are being installed in the Town of Andover Veterans Memory Walkway as a fundraiser to revitalize our Veterans Monument Park and with the hope of installing the Battlefield Cross Monument and Benches in Spring of 2022.

Forms can be viewed on the town website at
www.andoverct.org/veterans-affairs

Veterans Monument Park is located at
1 Monument Lane at the corner of Rt 6 and Rt 316 in Andover, CT (aka Agent Orange Memorial Hwy)

THANK YOU!

Contact Information: Resident Veteran Gerry Wright, 860-982-3944, happyhauler@comcast.net
or Town Clerk Carol Lee at 860-742-7305 ext 2, townclerk@andoverct.org



VETERAN EVENTS



Providing a safe environment for veterans to meet **every Wednesday from 9-11 AM** at Hops 44 (625 Middle Turnpike in Storrs). This is a social meeting of veterans who served at any time. Veterans create friendships, bond with one another and create their own support system. There are weekly guests that include: agent orange advocacy, VA benefits, retirement options, senior health issues, Bradley Air Museum, national archives, military history, yoga, info on PTSD and veteran suicide, medication review, UCONN football games, history and personal experiences of veterans.

[**FIND RESOURCES FOR VETERANS HERE**](#)

LOCAL COVID TESTING/VACCINATIONS

[**GENERATIONS TESTING/VACCINATION INFORMATION, CLICK HERE**](#)

[**CLICK HERE FOR HARTFORD HEALTHCARE COVID TESTING INFORMATION**](#)

[**CLICK HERE FOR HARTFORD HEALTHCARE COVID VACCINATION INFORMATION**](#)

[**TESTING SITE LOOKUP FROM United Way 211**](#)

THANK YOU TO OUR CORPORATE SPONSORS:

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1320 Main St, suite 27, Willimantic Ct 06226
860-423-6389 info@windhamchamber.com

The Chamber of Commerce, Inc, Windham Region | 1320 Main Street, Suite 27, ECT Veterans Community Center, Willimantic, CT 06226 860-428-7739

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